

What is claimed is:

1. An implantable device for insertion into a cavity in a vertebral body comprising:
  - 5        a flexible container having a wall membrane:  
              said wall membrane defining an interior and an exterior of said container;  
              said wall having at least one hole connecting the interior with the exterior;
  - 10      a fill tube coupled to said container at a location proximate an edge of said container for injecting a flowable or fluid bone filler material into said container such that said bone filler leaves said interior and enters said vertebral body.
- 15      2. The device of claim 1 wherein said container is substantially tubular in shape.
3. The device of claim 1 wherein said wall membrane is elastic.
- 20      4. The device of claim 1 wherein said wall membrane is inelastic.
5. The device of claim 1 wherein at least one of said wall membranes is woven.
6. The device of claim 1 wherein said wall membrane is porous.
- 25      7. The device of claim 1 wherein said wall membrane is not porous.
8. The device of claim 1 further comprising:  
              a septum located adjacent said container and in fluid communication  
30      with said interior for permitting the sealing entry of a filling device.

9. The device of claim 1 wherein said membrane is opaque to x-ray and is therefore radiopaque.

5 10. The device of claim 1 wherein said membrane is transparent to x-rays and is therefore radio-translucent.

11. The device of claim 1 further comprising a delivery tube, wherein said container is everted within said delivery tube.

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12. An implantable device for insertion into a cavity in a vertebral body comprising:

a container including;

an upper wall member;

a lower wall member;

a circumferential wall member;

a set of ribs extending from said upper wall to said lower wall,

thereby forming a set of channels.

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13. The device of claim 12 wherein said upper and lower wall member have a substantially horseshoe shape.

14. The device of claim 12 wherein said upper and lower wall member have a substantially triangular shape.

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15. The device of claim 12 wherein said container is substantially cylindrical in shape.

16. The device of claim 12 wherein said wall membrane is elastic.

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17. The device of claim 12 wherein said wall membrane is inelastic.

18. The device of claim 12 wherein at least one of said wall membranes is woven.

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19. The device of claim 12 wherein said wall membrane is porous.

20. A method of treating an vertebral body having a superior endplate and an inferior endplate, comprising the steps of:

10        inserting a container into an vertebral body;  
              deploying said container within said vertebral body;  
              injecting a bone filler material into said container under pressure;  
                      whereby said pressure supplies a distraction force to move said  
                      superior and inferior endplates apart;  
15        ending injection after said endplates have moved apart.

21. The method of claim 20 wherein said filler material is selected from the group comprising:

20        bone cement, human bone graft allograft; human bone graft autograft;  
              synthetic derived bone substitute; sulfate and/or calcium phosphate,  
                      hydroxylapatite.

22. A method of treating an vertebral body comprising the steps of:

25        creating a cavity in the vertebral body through an access aperture;  
              inserting a container into said vertebral body;  
              said container having a fill passage coupled to said container;  
              deploying said container within said vertebral body;  
              injecting a bone filler material into said container through said fill  
                      passage.

23. A method of treating an vertebral body comprising the steps of:  
inserting a container into an vertebral body;  
said container having a fill passage coupled to said container;

5           said container having a porous outer membrane sufficiently porous to allow filler material under pressure to leave the container after filling the container;

deploying said container within said vertebral body  
injecting a filler material into said container through said fill passage

10          with bone filler material in a sufficient volume to allow the bone filler material to exit the container and interdigitates with cancellous bone within said vertebral body thereby reinforcing said bone and stabilizing fractures in said bone;

15          said container membrane porosity sufficient to provide resistance to the flow of said bone filler material to generate force to move the endplates of said vertebral body.

24. The method of claim 23 wherein said injecting step is ended after the superior and inferior endplates move toward a normal anatomic position.

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25. An implantable device for insertion into a cavity in a vertebral body comprising:  
a container including;  
an upper wall member;  
25        a lower wall member;  
a circumferential wall member;  
said wall members together defining a single chamber.

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26. The device of claim 25 wherein said upper and lower wall member have a substantially horseshoe shape.

27. The device of claim 25 wherein said upper and lower wall member have a substantially triangular shape.